

- HJR 24 (1993 Session) required the Private Lands/Public Wildlife Council to:
 - Secure free access to hunt private land for sportsmen
 - Compensate landowners for the impacts of hunting on their land
 - Ensure a viable outfitting industry
- The outfitter sponsored license (OSL) for contracted nonresident clients was the mechanism to “ensure a viable industry” which funded the enhanced Block Management program, which provided compensation for landowners and free hunting access for hunters [currently > 9 million acres]
- OSL was not a “guaranteed client” or “guaranteed income” for an outfitter; OSL was a guaranteed license to the nonresident holding a signed contract for outfitter services.
- NCHU was part of HB 196, which was the “companion bill” to HB 195 (1995 Session) that implemented the outfitter sponsored license (OSL)
- NCHU was a yoke accepted by the outfitting industry in exchange for the OSL
- Net Client Hunter Use (NCHU) refers to **permission slips** that an outfitter must have in order to serve a client
- NCHU was a mechanism to control an outfitter's growth as a result of the OSL
- Outfitters either declared NCHU as a result of historical use or were forced to get some from the Montana Board of Outfitters (MBO) through the expansion process.
- 1999 Legislature tightened up NCHU expansion process: \$2,000 application fee, more than 8 hard gates of approval (miss any one and it's over - \$2,000 not refundable). Gain approval and EACH NCHU costs \$500. ie \$5,000 for 10 antelope hunters, or bird hunters. . . .
- New outfitter businesses had to purchase NCHU in 2009 in order to provide guided services in 2010 – while I-161 was deciding the fate of their asset.
- NCHU has value. NCHU is mandated by the State. Value of NCHU is uncertain
- **Category I – OSL**
- **Category II – general draw elk, deer licenses, moose, sheep, goat, bear, lion, antelope**
- **Category III – upland game birds, turkey**

NCHU Category I – nonresident hunter with B10 OSL

One Permission Slip – Value: \$500

(Outfitter must hold one of these in the proper Category for EACH client served)